(NORD), Support to Training and Employment Programme (STEP), Indira Mahila Yojana (IMY), Socio-Economic Programme (SEP), Condensed Courses of Educational and Vocational Training for Women (CCE and VT) under which pereference is given to such marginalized women in the matter of providing assistance. The Rashtriya Mahila Kosh is also implementing programmes, with special focus on marginalised women, under which financial assistance is provided for implementing self employment programmes through Non-Governmental Organisations. Other schemes such as National Old Age Pension Scheme and the Social Defence Schemes provide for pension and rehabilitation of such aged and marginalized women.

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has released grant-in-aid or Rs. 5.82 lakhs during 1998-99 to Guild of Service, a voluntary organization working for women in need, for implementing a project for the rehabilitation of widows of Vrindavan by providing them shelter, food, means of living, vocational training etc. Another grant of Rs. 14.04 lakhs has been sanctioned during the current financial year (1999-2000), 50% of which amounting to Rs. 7.02 lakhs has been released in October, 1999.

Schemes for the Liberation of Scavengers

1150. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal for the liberation of scavengers;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme;

(c) the allocation of fund made for implementing these schemes;

(d) whether it is a fact that these socially significant schemes have not been receiving proper attention;

(e) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(f) the steps taken for suitable rehabilitation of scavengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their dependents is implemented by States/UTs. Under the scheme, the Centre provide financial assistance towards their rehabilitation wherein the subsidy component is 50% of the Project Cost (upto Rs. 50,000/-), subject to a

ceiling of Rs. 10,000/-, whichever is less. 15% of the Project Cost as is also given as Margin Money Loan (shared between Centre and State on 49:51 basis) and rest through loans. Financial assistance for training upto six months to scavengers in age group of 15—50 years, through training institutes of Central Government, State Governments, Local Bodies and Non-government Organisations, is also provided under the scheme.

(c) The allocation under the said scheme for 1999-2000 is Rs. 70.00 crores.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

(f) Under the scheme, provisions have been made for their rehabilitation in viable projects that can be started by the liberated scavengers. The Ministry has also approached States/UTs to adopt the concept of Sanitary Marts on the pattern of the West Bengal Model to liberate and rehabilitate scavengers.

Fake NGOs

1151. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the working of some fake Non-governmental organisations in various States;

(b) if so, the steps taken to identify these fake NGOs;

(c) what are those fake NGOs;

(d) the action initiated against these NGOs; and

(e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) to (e) Instances have come to notice where certain NGOs have indulged in misutilisation of funds released by the Ministry or have set fake recommendatory letter from State Governments/UTs. In such cases, after due verification, further release of grant is stopped and the State Government/U.T. Administration concerned is asked to register case under IPC and recover the misutilised amount from the NGO. A statement showing the names of the organizations in whose cases request for